

Moore, Megan

From: Steve Arveschoug <SteveA@bigskyeda.org>
Sent: Wednesday, September 03, 2014 5:36 PM
To: Moore, Megan
Cc: spook@mttrucking.org; Cary Hegreberg (cary@mtagc.org); James McCord ; Bill Parker (ParkerB@bayltd.com); Bruce MacIntyre; Ed Bartlett (edbartlett@optimum.net)
Subject: RE: RTIC to Meet September 4-5

Megan,

Thank you for sharing this information. Regarding the proposed legislation creating oversized-load corridors, I would offer the Revenue and Transportation Interim Committee the following comments:

1. When considering the designation of oversized-load corridors the Department of Transportation should give consideration to corridors that already exist as a result of pervious public/private investment that supported the creation existing unobstructed routes. The point is that companies in Billings have already made significant investment in creating unobstructed routes. Those routes should be protected by the Department so that the investment in infrastructure improvement is not lost.
2. The Department should devise a funding mechanism that would capture fees from users who take advantage of the unobstructed routes (corridors) that have been created by the investment of other users. Such fees should be used to reimburse those companies that have made the original investment. A company in Billings has invested over \$3 million in utility and roadway improvements to create a route for their shipments of oversized loads to the US/Canadian Boarder at Sweet Grass. This route will likely to shared (in whole or in part) by other users that would need to file for a 32J permit.
3. The Department should require that companies who have invested in corridor development and use such corridors be notified of any proposed local government or utility improvements in advance so that plans can be made to maintain the corridor in collaboration with the Department and corridor developers and users.

I'm not able to attend the Committee's hearings this week, but I would make myself available at a later date (or by e-mail/phone communication) to address any questions from the Committee.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Arveschoug

From: RTIC [mailto:memmoore@mt.gov]
Sent: Friday, August 22, 2014 9:20 AM
To: Steve Arveschoug
Subject: RTIC to Meet September 4-5

The Revenue and Transportation Interim Committee will hold its last regular meeting of the interim on September 4-5 in Room 137 of the Capitol building. The agenda and meeting materials are now available on the committee website.

Thursday afternoon will be devoted to economic outlook presentations intended to support the committee's adoption of a revenue estimate at the November meeting. The committee will receive presentations on the U.S. and Montana economies, oil and gas, labor and business trends, and the agricultural industry.

Friday's agenda includes a fiscal year-end report from the Legislative Fiscal Division and some comments about the revenue estimate from Director Dan Villa of the Office of Budget and Program Planning.

Department of Revenue Director Mike Kadas will then present the second part of an update on the 6-year reappraisal cycle, which will include discussion of the property tax appeals packet and the sales assessment ratio study from the 2009 reappraisal. Economists from DOR will also present required reports on the charitable endowment tax credit, the tax credit for blending biodiesel fuel, and the use of property tax abatements for gray water systems. The committee will decide whether to retain, eliminate, or makes changes to these reporting requirements. Director Kadas will also provide a director's report that includes committee-requested follow-up related to the tax haven report submitted in July.

Committee staff will present two committee requested bill drafts: one to revise penalty and interest provisions and the other to revise the Agricultural Land Valuation Advisory Committee.

Friday afternoon will be devoted to a director's report from the Department of Transportation and presentation of required reports on the refund for biodiesel sold and dyed diesel enforcement. The committee will be asked to make recommendations about the reporting requirements.

The committee will wrap up work on its two interim studies with a review of draft final reports and consideration of requested bill drafts. For the SJR 23 study of the taxpayer appeal process, the committee will consider three versions of a bill to revise the appeal process for industrial property taxpayers and a bill to amend 15-1-211. The committee will also consider a bill about oversize load corridors as part of the SJR 26 study of the movement of oversize loads.

Questions about the meeting can be directed to committee staff Megan Moore at memoore@mt.gov or (406) 444-4496.

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